

Smith, Allen or

DRAWER 194

Artist's


71 2003. 085. 02511

Artists of Abraham Lincoln portraits

Allen Smith Jr.

Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection



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<http://archive.org/details/artisxxxxxxxxxxslinc>

"THE TERRACE"
Oyster Bay
Long Island

Dr. Louis Austin Warren
1225 Maple Avenue
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Doctor Warren:

The enclosed is a photograph of an oil painting of Abraham Lincoln painted by Allen Smith Jr. and marked, "Painted from a photograph taken a week before his death." It is an oil canvas, 28-30 inches. The coloring is pleasant and the condition fair. There is a break in the canvas in the upper right hand corner.

The painting was found in the attic of my mother-in-law's home in New Jersey after her death in 1943. In her youth she had lived in Springfield, Illinois, opposite the Lincoln home. Her father, the Reverend Noyes W. Miner, was a personal friend of the family. On Lincoln's departure for Washington he gave Doctor Miner the signed plaster cast of the bronze beardless Lincoln now in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. Later, after his death, Mrs. Lincoln gave Doctor Miner a Bible which had been presented to Lincoln by the ladies of the Volunteer Hospital of Philadelphia.

The painting was never talked of by the family, probably because it was not thought important. Dr. Miner's associations with Lincoln can be verified by some of his letters which are in the Lincoln scrapbook in the Library of Congress in Washington.

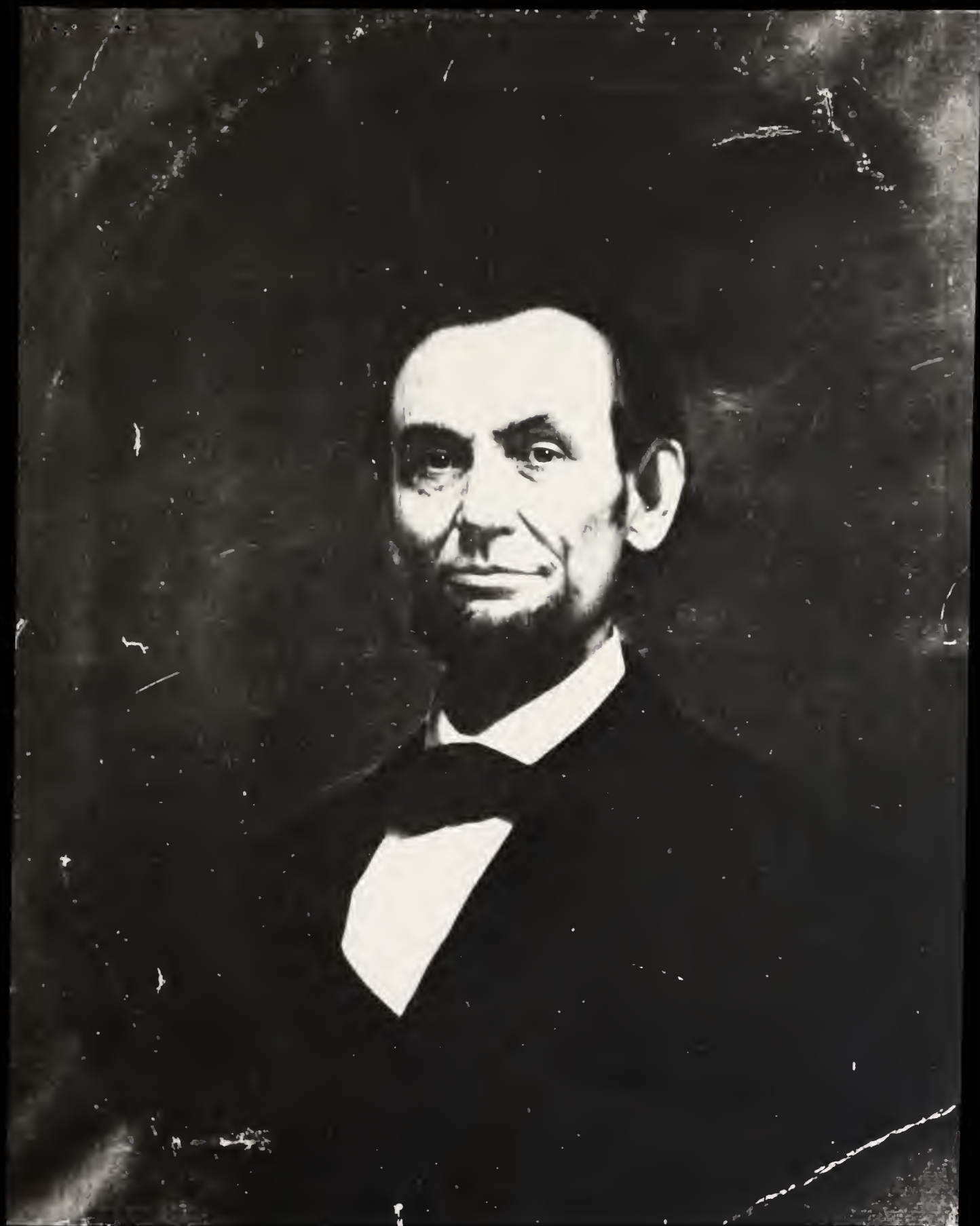
The canvas is offered for sale at \$500.00. In any event I would appreciate your returning the photograph in the enclosed stamped envelope.

Very sincerely yours,

Carolya W. Hill

Mrs. Miner C. Hill

Apr. 7, 1950
CMH:pt





SMITH, ALLEN Jr.

April 25, 1950

Mrs. Miner C. Hill
200 East Main St.
Oyster Bay, New York

My dear Mrs. Hill:

If it were not for a precedent which we established here many years ago, I might be tempted to come to Long Island and see the Lincoln portrait. All of our acquisitions in the painting field have been from original commissions which we ourselves grant to noted modern painters.

Under this plan we have built up a fine collection of paintings depicting episodes in Lincoln's life, and I anticipate we will continue making our purchases through commissions rather than the acquisition of old paintings.

I like the one you have very much, and I am attaching along with the original photograph a photograph which was used by the artist in making the print. Please accept it with my compliments.

Very truly yours,

LAW:EB
Encs.

Director

April 22, 1934

Mrs. Anna C. Hill
200 East Main St.
Oyster Bay, New York

My dear Mrs. Hill:

It is very hard for a president who is not
related here many years ago, I don't see how to
to find him and see the Lincoln portrait. All of our
acquaintance in the past have been from original
collections which we ourselves find to be very valuable.

Under this plan we have built up a fine collection
of paintings depicting episodes in Lincoln's life, and I
anticipate we will continue making our purchases through con-
sideration rather than the acquisition of old paintings.

I like the one you have very much, and I am
attending along with the original portrait a photograph
which was used by the artist in making the print. Please
accept it with my compliments.

Very truly yours,

Director

Enc.
100-10

Smith, Allen Jr

DRAFTER 1911

Artist's

